

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Michael E. Rickey et al.

Appl. No. 08/850,679

Filed: May 2, 1997

For: Preparation of Extended Shelf Life
Biodegradable, Biocompatible
Microparticles Containing a Biologically
Active Agent



Art Unit: 1502

Examiner: Unassigned

Atty. Docket: 00166.0063.0002

57 Suppl
Prior Art
Walt

Bet
3-6-98

First Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. A copy of each of these documents is provided.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be

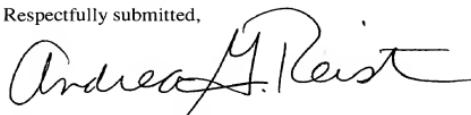
prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no certification or fee is required. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 19, 1998

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